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SP
01-16-04

03500.015331

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masashi HAMADA)
Application No.: 09/842,042)
Filed: April 26, 2001)
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING)
APPARATUS)
Examiner: Unassigned
Group Art Unit: 2131
January 14, 2004

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

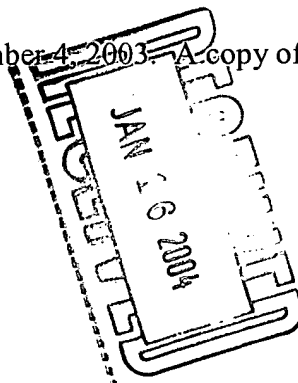
Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

These documents were recently cited in a European Search Report issued on a counterpart application, which is dated December 4, 2003. A copy of that communication is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

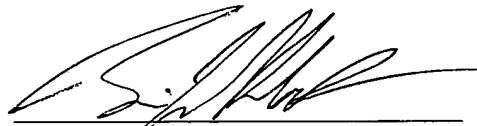


Applicants submit that no fee is required since no Office Action has been issued. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be considered by the Examiner, and that the Examiner initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 indicating that the information listed thereon has been considered and return a copy of the initialed form.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant

Brian L. Klock

Registration No. 36,570

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
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BLK/lmj

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary) Submitted to the PTO: January 14, 2004		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.015331		APPLICATION NO. 09/842,042			
		APPLICANT <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Masashi HAMADA</div>					
		FILING DATE <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">April 26, 2001</div>		GROUP <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">2131</div>			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,012,636	1/11/00	Smith			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		0 633 519 A1	01/11/95	Europe			
		0 935 182 A1	08/11/99	Europe			
		WO 97/29416	08/14/97	WIPO			
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

BLK\lmj